

REMARKS

Claims 6, 9, and 10 have been canceled. Claims 1, 23, and 24 have been amended to clarify the subject matter regarded as the invention. Claims 1-4, 7-8, 13-15, and 17-24 are pending.

Claims 1-4, 7, 15, 18-20, 23, and 24 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Blake. The remaining claims are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) based on Blake combine with one or more other references.

The rejections are respectfully traversed. With respect to claims 1, 23 and 24, each has been amended to recite that the honey pot is reinitialized “to an initial state in which the honey pot was in at the time it was deployed.” Morphing a honey pot into a different, new state as taught by Blake is not the same as reinitializing a honey pot to an initial state as recited in the claims. As such, claims 1, 23, and 24 are believed to be allowable. In addition, each of claims 1, 23, and 24 has been amended to recite that deploying the honey pot includes “registering with a virtual machine instance an initialization image associated with the initial state and instructing the virtual machine instance to execute the image, the image comprising data usable by the virtual machine to provide a virtual environment having a running instance of an operating system and one or more applications or other programs running on the operating system instance, and wherein redeploying the honey pot includes using the image to reset the virtual machine instance to the initial state.” Blake describes emulating services on an actual physical system running a single instance of an operating system, Blake at [0038]; but that is not the same as registering with a virtual machine instance an image of an initial honey pot state and instructing the virtual machine instance to execute the image, as recited in the claims. As such, claims 1, 23, and 24 are believed to be allowable for this additional reason.

Claims 2-4, 7-8, 13-15, and 17-22 depend from claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

The foregoing amendments are not to be taken as an admission of unpatentability of any of the claims prior to the amendments.

Reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested based on the preceding remarks. If at any time the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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